

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

GRUBER *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/076,115

Filed: May 12, 1998

For: **Methods for Production and
Purification of Nucleic Acid Molecules**

Confirmation No.: 4470

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Tung, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4350001/RWE/AWL

Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended three (3) months from January 6, 2004 to April 6, 2004 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$950.00 for a three (3) month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Del Buono", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Date: March 26, 2004

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